



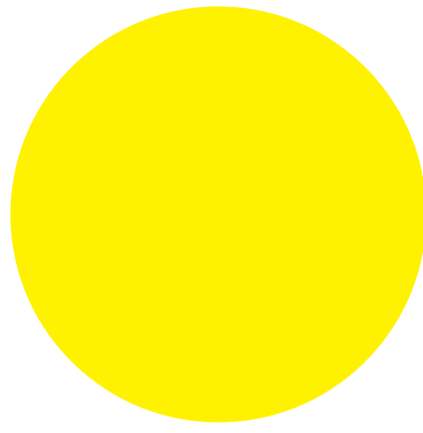
Museum city of Khiva, host to Iranian architectural style

EXCLUSIVE

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Iran retakes oil tanker after five years



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Over 30 Palestinians killed as Israel keeps pounding Gaza



A Basketball enthusiast demonstrates his skills as 2023 FIBA Basketball World Cup is showcased in a park in Tehran, Iran on May 12, 2023. MOHAMMAD HASSANZADEH/TASNIM

An ideal human rights opportunity

By Gholam-Reza Montazeri
Iranian MP

EXCLUSIVE

The appointment of Iran's Ambassador to the United Nations Office in Geneva, Ali Bahreini, to chair the UN Human Rights Council 2023 Social Forum slated for November 2 and 3, can be perceived as a propitious opportunity for the Islamic Republic to intensify its efforts toward the respect and protection of human rights worldwide. This is especially pertinent considering the false allegations levied against Iran by a number of Western countries, particularly the United States, con-

cerning human rights violations. The Iranian people, both through their religious teachings and national culture and history, have long embraced the notion of honoring the rights of others as a fundamental and intrinsic responsibility. The Holy Qur'an, for instance, explicitly articulates that taking the life of one person is tantamount to taking the life of all humanity, and that giving life to one person is equivalent to giving life to all humanity. Similarly, Sa'di, a revered Persian poet, famously quipped: "If you have no sympathy for human pain The name of human you shall not retain."

Chinese mediation enters a whole new level

By Saeed Azimi
Staff writer

EXCLUSIVE

After brokering a rapprochement deal between Iran and Saudi Arabia on March 10, Wang Yi, China's State Councilor and the man behind the Beijing Agreement pursues another ambitious goal: Mediating between Tehran and Washington. It all started on Tuesday when Yi received Secretary of Iran's Expediency Discernment Council Mohammad Baqer Zolqadr and his accompanying delegation in Beijing. During the meeting, Wang was quoted by Chinese media outlets as saying that "China

supports countries in the Middle East in taking their destiny into their own hands." Later, it was reported that Yi had two rounds of talks with US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan in Vienna on Wednesday and Thursday. According to Chinese media, the two sides reportedly had "candid, in-depth, substantive, and constructive discussions on ways to remove obstacles and stabilize China-US relations." However, William Figueroa, a Postdoc fellow at the Center for Geopolitics and an analyst on Sino-Iranian affairs, casted doubts on whether the meetings were directly related or not.

Iran is ready to transfer its tech gains to Muslim nations

Economy Desk

Finance Minister Ehsan Khandouzi on Friday expressed Iran's willingness to share its technological advancements with member states of the Islamic Development Bank (ISDB) and other Muslim nations. Speaking on the sidelines of the ISDB annual meeting in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, Khandouzi highlighted Iran's capabilities in various industries including bio, Nano, pharmaceuticals, medical

equipment, construction of power plant equipment, and oil industry catalysts, expressing readiness to transfer them to other Muslim countries, IRNA reported. He emphasized the importance of joint cooperation among ISDB member states and considered the annual event as one of the best opportunities for such collaboration. Khandouzi further praised the recent diplomatic rapprochement between Iran

and Saudi Arabia, citing the potential economic benefits it can have for both countries. He expressed confidence that the expansion of economic ties between the two regional powers would be a win-win relationship for both, as well as for the region. Khandouzi, who is leading a senior economic team, is the first Iranian minister to visit Saudi Arabia since the signing of the agreement. Iran and Saudi Arabia

agreed to restore diplomatic ties in March after seven years and to reopen their embassies in each other's capitals by May. On April 6, the foreign ministers of both countries met in Beijing and issued a joint statement, expressing readiness to remove all impediments to boost bilateral ties. Khandouzi also said the policy of the Islamic Republic is based on strengthening ties with neighboring states. "We have had good achieve-



ments in the past 1.5 years and expect a rising growth in economic, trade, and investment ties with neighbors," he said.



Pakistan ex-PM granted bail after arrest cancelled

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AFC Asian Cup: Iran to face Palestine, Hong Kong, UAE in Group C

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Nurses are the beating heart of healthcare systems

EXCLUSIVE 7 >

Iran, Tajikistan highlight expansion of cultural ties

Arts & Culture Desk

During a meeting held on the sidelines of the 34th Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF), Iranian and Tajik officials emphasized the expansion of cultural ties between their respective countries. Tajikistan's Ambassador to Tehran Nizomiddin Zohidi highlighted the translation of Tajik authors' works into Persian and mentioned that the literary works of many Iranian poets and writers have been translated into Cyrillic script. Notably, books by Iranian scholars like Saeed Nafisi, Abdolhossein Zarrinkoob, and Mohammadreza Shafiei Kadkani are utilized as textbooks in Tajikistan's universities, Tasnim wrote. The gathering, titled 'Perspective of Cultural Interactions between Iran and Tajikistan,' was also attended by Iran's Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mohammad-Mehdi Esmaeili, Tajik Culture Minister Zulfiya Davlatzoda, and Deputy Minister of Culture of Iran's Ministry of Guidance Yasser Ahmadvand. Page 8 >

Iran slams Swedish MPs' vote for IRGC designation

International Desk

Iran on Friday condemned the Swedish parliament's move to demand the designation of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) as a "terrorist organization". Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said the IRGC, as a protector of Iran's security, is a "red line" for the country, according to IRNA. The bill, rubberstamped on Wednesday by 349 votes in favor and zero against, called on the

Swedish government to officially blacklist the IRGC. Swedish Foreign Minister Tobias Billstrom had earlier said the IRGC could not be put on the terror list over "human rights violations in Iran". The Iranian Foreign Ministry on Thursday rejected the "illegal" designation as an intervention in Iran's internal affairs and a breach of its national sovereignty. In a statement, the ministry warned the Swedish government against "falling into a trap laid for the relations of the two countries".